

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the present application. Claims 9-24 have been cancelled. In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated March 29, 2004, Applicant has revised the Amendment so that each section of the amendment appears on a separate sheet. Additionally, Applicant has amended the specification to remove reference to "carbonal". In investigating the generic name for carbonal, it came to Applicants attention that there was a typographical error; that is, applicant intended to reference Carbopol® (B. F. Goodrich Company, New York, New York). For simplicity's sake, the reference to carbonal has been removed from the specification. Lastly, Applicant revised the listing of the claims to properly include status identifiers. No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

If the foregoing does not place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing this application in condition for allowance.

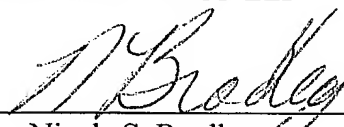
The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment associated with this Response to Deposit Account No. 03-3975.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

Date: April 28, 2004.

By: _____


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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL MAILING

I certify that on April 28, 2004, which is the date I am signing this certificate, this correspondence and all listed attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing label no. EV 235024609 US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-14350

Lisa Ralph

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4-28-04

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